



# Montgomery County Council

*From the office of Councilmember Phil Andrews*

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**News Advisory****September 14, 2004**

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## **ANDREWS TO URGE “YES ON C” VOTE FOR SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS AT ASBURY METHODIST VILLAGE IN GAITHERSBURG**

Councilmember Phil Andrews will speak to the Asbury Methodist Village Democrats at 2 PM on Friday, September 17 to urge support for Question C on the November ballot.

The meeting will be held in Parker Hall at Asbury Methodist Village, 201 Russell Avenue in Gaithersburg.

Question C would replace the current system of four at-large and five district seats with nine district seats. This measure would make the Council more accountable to residents by reducing the size of Council districts from the current nearly 200,000 residents each to about 110,000. It would diminish the role of developer contributions in Council elections by replacing at-large seats with smaller districts where grassroots campaigning can somewhat offset the power of money.

Passage of Question C would also boost the opportunities for minorities, who now account for nearly 40 percent of County residents, to compete for Council seats. In the 55 years of at-large Council elections only one minority – Isiah Leggett – has ever been elected to an at-large position.

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